Claim 9, lines 1 and 2; delete the phrase "specific binding entity" and substitute --monoclonal antibody-- therefore.

Claim 11, line 2; change "comprising" to --consisting essentially--.

Claims 13 and 14, line 2; change "revealing" to --detecting--.

Claim 12, line 2; substitute --monoclonal antibody-- for "specific binding entity".

Claim 12, line 3; change "revealing" to --detecting--.

R E M A R K S

The above amendment is submitted to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 12, 18, and 21 as being anticipated by Moncada or Kobzik et al or Fujisawa. Moncada postulates the development and utilization of polyclonal antisera and monoclonal antibodies to human iNOS. Moncada does not teach the making of an antibody, either polyclonal or monoclonal, to human iNOS. The addition of Kobzik and Fujisawa add nothing to Moncada. Kobzik discloses the important role for NOS in the physiology of air ways in that both constitutive and inducible types of NOS are found in multiple cell types in the human and rat lungs. Fujisawa induced Nitric Acid synthase activity in the cytosol of A-172 cells by the treatment with various entities. Again, the combination of these three references fails to show an antibody reactive to human iNOS enzyme which may be used to detect the presence of the same.

Claims 1-7, 12, 18, and 21 were deemed to be anticipated by Ikeda. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 12, 18, and 21 were deemed to be obvious over Ikeda or Kobzik et al or Fujisawa.

Ikeda discloses the making of a polyclonal anti peptide antibody. Ikeda used an amino acid peptide from the "carboxyl side" of each eNOS conjugated onto KLH as an immunogen, to elicit the anti-peptide antiserum. Ikeda never produced a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal or monoclonal antibody, lacking cross-reactivity with human eNOS or nNOS. Combing Ikeda with the Kobzik and Fujisawa references, above discussed, would still not produce Applicant's claimed invention of a monoclonal antibody reactive to human iNOS which may be used in an immunoassay.

Thus, none of the references taken alone or in combination shows Applicant's claimed invention. It is believed that the Application as amended is now in condition for allowance and the passing to issue of the same at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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